

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 7, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

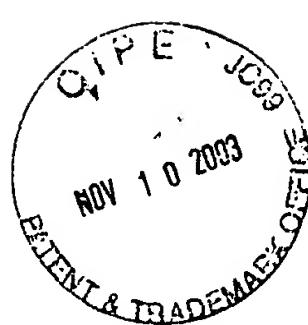
Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 10 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including the Abstract and the amended drawing figure is attached following page 23 of this paper.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/857,357 Confirmation No. 3176
Applicants : Albrecht Freynhofer *et al.*
Filed : July 10, 2001
TC/A.U. : 1722
Examiner : Joseph S. Leyson

Docket No. : 046613-00117 (former no. 146154.00000)
Customer No. : 29381

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

**I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed
to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
on November 7, 2003.**

By _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph S. Leyson".